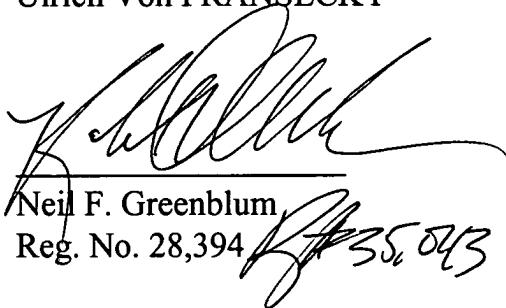


patentability.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,
Ulrich Von FRANSECKY



The image shows a handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ulrich Von Fransecky". Below the signature, there is a horizontal line.

Neil F. Greenblum
Reg. No. 28,394

October 4, 2001
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APPENDIX

Marked-Up Copies of the Amended Claims:

3. (Amended) A mesh structure according to claim 1 [or claim 2], characterized in that in the intersection region the lengths of the meshes (7') of the fixing threads (3) are so short that a mesh (7') is associated with each weft thread (2) of a weft thread group (11).

4. (Amended) A mesh structure according to [one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, characterized in that associated with each warp thread (1) is a fixing thread (3) which embraces the warp thread (1) in the form of warp meshes (7, 7').

5. (Amended) A mesh structure with warp thread groups (9) formed from at least two warp threads (1) extending in closely mutually juxtaposed relationship, according to claim 1 [or claim 2], characterized in that the warp threads (1) of a warp thread group (9) are fixed to prevent lateral displacement by means of a joining thread (10) extending in a zig-zag configuration.

6. (Amended) A mesh structure according to claim 1 [or claim 2], characterized in that the fixing threads (3) of a warp thread group (9), which are associated with each warp thread (1), are fixed to prevent lateral displacement by means of a joining thread (10) extending in a zig-zag configuration.

7. (Amended) A mesh structure according to [one of claims 1 to 6] claim 1, characterized in that the joining threads (10) or fixing threads (3) which are knitted on or applied by Raschel knitting join the warp and weft threads of the mesh to a non-woven

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material layer.